

City of Takoma Park Safe Roadways Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2007

The City of Takoma Park Safe Roadways Committee met on Tuesday, March 20, 2007 in the Atrium Room of the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland.

Members Present: Laurie Kelly, Katherine Kelly, Robert Patten, Greg Castano, Jay Ulfelder, Dan Turner, Margaret Warner, Sanjay Grover, Wolfgang Mergner

Members Absent: Jay Lee

Staff Present: David Suls, Associate Planner

Others Present: Captain Edward Coursey Takoma Park Police, Nicole Cinco and Edie Castano

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00.

2. Briefing

Takoma Park Police: Captain Edward Coursey spoke to the Committee about the Police's recent activities related to the committee's work:

Six officers were trained in May for Bike Patrol detail. The Police will start a regular Bike Patrol when the new equipment they ordered is received. The Police have begun a joint bike patrol initiative with the Prince George's Police in the Takoma/Langley Crossroads and they are working on organizing joint patrols with DC Police in Old Takoma.

The Police have recently participated in a pedestrian safety event with CSAFE in the Takoma/Langley Crossroads with crosswalk enforcement for drivers. The Police have also carried about seatbelt checks on roads and posted banners as part of a national seat belt education campaign.

The Police are currently researching the possibility of a City mobile camera van to deter speeding on the major roads. The Police have also put in a request to Montgomery County to add Piney Branch Road to their mobile camera program.

3. Action Items

Sidewalk Inventory: The Committee had formed a subcommittee in January 2007 to examine the possibilities in creating a citywide sidewalk inventory. The Committee discussed the degree of detail the inventory would contain and who would work to create it. The City applied for a Safe Routes to School Grant that would include a citywide Missing Sidewalk Study.

Action: The Committee agreed to not take action until the results of the grant application are known in October 2007. If the project is not funded, Katherine Kelly will organize GIS files to be used in a volunteer-based sidewalk inventory.

Officer Elections: Bob Patten was nominated for the first Chair position and accepted the nomination. Dan Turner was nominated for the First Vice-Chair position. Wolfgang Mergner was nominated to the Second Vice-Chair position and accepted the nomination.

Action: A motion was made to elect the slate. A vote was called and Bob Patten was elected to the Chair position, Dan Turner for First Vice-Chair, and Wolfgang Mergner for Second Vice-Chair.

4. Approval of Minutes: review and vote on adoption

The minutes from the March 24th, 2007 meeting were reviewed and adopted unanimously.

5. Brief Announcements / Updates

Budget Recommendation/ Annual Report: Laurie Kelly and Greg Castano presented the SRC Annual Report and Recommendations for the FY08 Budget to City Council on May 7th. The Council supported the Committee's efforts and direction.

Outreach: The Committee's 2007 outreach projects are to be implemented on schedule. Two articles are being written for the June and July newsletter on pedestrian and bicycle safety. An SRC Resource Guide is being compiled and will be inserted in the July newsletter.

Neighborhood Traffic Studies: Margy Warner participated as the SRC representative for the consultant interviews. Wallace, Montgomery and Associates was chosen. The consultant will hold a community meeting on May 16th.

5. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Respectfully Submitted

David Suls, Associate Planner

Approved

Laurie Kelly, Chair